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Title: Need to release funds to the Government of Kerala for settlement of landless tribals in Wayanad. − Laid

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA) : The Kerala Government is committed to locate land for allotment to the tribals. But in spite of strenuous efforts, Government could not locate enough land in resettling the landless tribals. Financial position of the State does not permit purchase of land. Most of the tribal population resides in Wayanad. The number of landless tribals in Wayanad alone is estimated to be 13303. About 2184 tribes in Wayanad have less than one care of land. If the problem of landless tribals in Wayanad can be settled, the Government can start other activities in the resettled areas. The Kerala Government has requested for additional Central assistance of rupees one hundred crore during this financial year for purchase of land for settling landless tribals in April, 2003. However, it seems that the Central Government has not taken any action so far.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to release rupees one hundred crore to Kerala Government immediately to purchase land for settling landless tribals.